PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT RECORD KOBUK-SEWARD PENINSULA RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Meeting Location: Fairbanks, Noel Wien Public Library

Meeting Date: March 11, 2004

Purpose: Identify public issues and concerns with BLM-managed lands in the

Planning Area.

Number of public in attendance: 8

BLM personnel in attendance: Bob Schneider, Jeanie Cole, Stacie McIntosh, Cal Westcott, Tom Dilts, and Dave Parker

Meeting format: Through a PowerPoint presentation, attendees were introduced to what an RMP does and why BLM is doing a new one. They were also given examples of decisions that might come out of an RMP. They had the opportunity to review maps of land status, State-identified RS2477 routes, reindeer grazing allotments, anadromous streams, Seward 1008 PLO locations (mineral entry), guide use areas, and game management units in the Planning Area. Participants were asked to express their concerns and issues with BLM-managed public lands. These are documented below. An Interested Party letter explaining the types of decisions made in the RMP and giving an overview of the initial steps in planning was distributed. In addition, a small-scale map of the planning area, a copy of the planning website home page, and copy of the PowerPoint presentation were available for attendees to take. A scoping comment sheet that can either be filled out at the meeting or returned to BLM at a later date was also made available to attendees.

Issues/Questions/Concerns:

- 1. The Kivalina River is very important for subsistence harvest of fish.
- 2. Southern Norton Sound has many important subsistence rivers that support Dolly Varden, salmon and white fish. A few are: Tubutulik, Ungalik, Inglutalik, and Shaktoolik. This is not a full list; most of the rivers are important and deserve special management consideration.
- 3. Needed data: upstream limits of anadromous fish species for most rivers in the planning area.
- 4. Fish River is a heat sink and the water warms up disproportionately fast compared to other rivers in Southern Norton Sound. It is an important river but not higher in importance than some of the other rivers in this region.
- 5. Squirrel River is important for subsistence use and recreational use both.
- 6. All riparian areas need special protection.

- 7. Will BLM consider wilderness?
- 8. What is BLM's primary goal for fisheries management—subsistence or sport?
- 9. What are the existing OHV designations and how will new designations be determined?
- 10. What types of recreational development are anticipated? (campgrounds, etc).
- 11. Which rivers will BLM consider for wild and scenic? Many rivers in the area probably qualify.
- 12. Are there coal reserves within the planning area?
- 13. What opportunities does BLM have for students?
- 14. Will BLM look at using egg boxes as a fisheries management tool?
- 15. Nuclear contamination from Chernobyl and effects on caribou.
- 16. How will BLM manage for endangered species such as eiders?